MISSION STATEMENT
As disciples of Christ, First Presbyterian Church exists: to let people know that they matter to God, by showing them that they matter to us, in order that they may let others matter to them.

MATTHEW 25
By accepting the Matthew 25 invitation, we are becoming a more relevant presence in the world. We recognize Christ's urgent call to be a church of action, where God's love, justice and mercy shine forth and are contagious. And we rejoice how our re-energized faith can unite us for a common and holy purpose: our common identity to do mission.

VISION STATEMENT
As a caring community with a commitment to Christian social justice, we will create transformational space to provide access to resources and forge relationships with community service and arts organizations.
Excerpts were taken from the “Celebrate the Journey” for the 150th Anniversary by Eve Pierce.

This year, on May 3, 2024, First Presbyterian Church of South Bend celebrated 190 years of service dedicated to laying the foundation of Presbyterianism in our city. The church dates back to May 3, 1834. At that time the nation was only 58 years old, the State of Indiana was only 18 years old, and our city was only 3 years old!

Horatio Chapin came here from Detroit in 1831, riding an Indian pony and following an Indian trail. He had the distinction of shipping the first cargo of wheat down the St. Joseph River on its way to the city of Buffalo, New York.

Chapin was a native of Bernardstown, Massachusetts, where he was born in 1803. His parents were of sturdy Christian New England stock. And early instilled the young man with a strong belief in the Republic and a deep-rooted faith in God.

Chapin felt that a Sabbath School needed to be organized to instruct the children in the Christian faith at an early age. In 1833 a nondenominational school was begun and operated off and on during the next two years.

The first meeting of the little group was held on May 3, 1834 in Horatio Chapin’s home on Michigan Street near LaSalle Avenue for the purpose of organizing a Presbyterian Church. The Rev. M. M. Post of Logansport acted as Moderator. Ten residents presented letters of recommendation from the Presbyterian Church of Crawfordsville, and were accepted. One of 10, John McConnel, was chosen as Clerk. At the second meeting, Horatio Chapin was appointed and ordained as second Ruling Elder.

The first schoolhouse was at 228 S. St. Joseph Street, an early site of the School Administration Building and now the site of the Century Center. It was a primitive log structure, 20 x 30 feet in size and 7 feet high. Meetings here or in private homes were for prayer, worship and study of the scriptures.

1836—the original church structure was built. A frame building 26 x 46 fee, on the corner now occupied by the South Bend Tribune’s printing presses, and where the new South Bend City Church is located, It served congregation until 1839.

1839—the second church was built at 126 and 128 South Main Street. This site is behind the current home of Everwise Credit Union (formerly Teacher’s Credit Union). The church bell was cast in New York State. Today that bell hangs in the spire of our present day church! It had an organ—the only one in the city.

1866— the third “brick” church, was built on the corner of Lafayette and Washington Streets.

1889—the fourth “stone” church was built on the same as the third church.

1953—the fifth, and current church was built at 333 W. Colfax Avenue. The first service was on January 11, 1953.
May 5, 2024—Celebration of 190 Years of Worship
(May 3, 1834)
First Presbyterian Church of Downtown South Bend
Ethnic Eating

Thursday, June 6, 2024 – 6:00 P.M.
Weiss’ Gasthaus German Restaurant
115 N. Dixie Way
Roseland, IN 46637

R.S.V.P. by Monday, June 3 to:

Phyllis Wezeman
phylliswezeman1@gmail.com
574-302-1556

Guten Appetit!

Ordering will be off of the menu. There will be separate checks.
On May 15, 2024, the historic Navarre cabin was moved from its home in Leeper Park to its new home just west of the History Museum on Thomas Street, behind Copshaholm (Oliver Mansion). The Navarre log cabin was built in 1820. The History Museum saved the cabin from demolition in 1895 and moved it to the southeast corner of Leeper Park. Through the years the cabin has moved several times within the park.

In the picture above, it shows the spire of the current First Presbyterian Church of South Bend, another part of South Bend history that started just 14 years after the cabin was built, in 1834. The church had been built in the city at five different locations finally coming to rest on Colfax.

The History Museum is open Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, 12 to 5 p.m. EST.
The Butterfly Garden, located in the north side of the Memorial Garden, that Jen and Mark Beudert created in loving memory of their daughter, Sarah. They were out on a beautiful day cleaning out the weeds and adding more love to the garden.
Redbud Trail Retreat Day Camp

First Presbyterian Church of South Bend

Come Join Us for a Memorable Week of Outdoor Vacation Bible School Activities

Affordable and Fun
Campers 5 yrs. – 6th Grade
$35 per Camper
(Scholarships Available)

Redbud Day Camp 2024
13985 S Indian Springs Rd, Buchanan, MI 49107

July 15 - 18 Day Camp
8:20 AM – 3:00 PM

Registration Forms for Campers & Counselors* Are Available To Print On Our Website at:

www.fpcsouthbend.org/churchlife/#redbud

*Space is limited for teen counselors
*All counselors will have to fill out an application

First Presbyterian Church
333 W. Colfax Avenue
South Bend, IN 46601

Camp bus leaves First Presbyterian Church at 8:20 AM and returns by 3 PM every day for campers. Redbud Trail Retreat is in Buchanan, MI and is a ministry of FPC.

For more information visit:
www.fpcsouthbend.org or call 574-234-4159; or 574-229-2502
Mission Calendar

June—
2— Make Hope Missions Casseroles after worship
   — Items needed for Redbud:
     * Individual cookies & chips, & packaged snacks
     * Toilet Paper
     * Paper towels
   — Perishable Items for Redbud:
     * Lunchmeats
     * Freeze Pops (popsicles)
     * Homemade cookies
     * Fruit
     * Provide meal for camp—casseroles to serve about 30 People,
       Over 3—4 days

July—
11— All Redbud (non-perishable) supplies to the church office—Thank You!

Happy Birthday

Nengizi Moyo 05/08
Pamela McNeer 05/12

Phyllis Wezeman 05/17
Josh Sporleder 05/18
Amelia Wenkus 05/24
Max Drain 05/27
Dave Norman 05/29
Jennifer Beudert 05/30
Guy St. John 05/31
“To everything there is a season and a time to every purpose under heaven”…

… “A time to be born”…

… “A time to love”…

The Presbyterian Church of Edwardsburg, MI, FPC Mishawaka, Sunnyside Presbyterian Church

… “A time to grieve”…

… “A time to heal” …

Dan Balog, the Beudert Family, Jennifer Brittain, the Bill and Linda Fox, the Kalararsos Family, Jim and Sally Schlobohm, Joann Sporleder

…and friends of FPC…

Samira Abou Arraj (Younes), Barbara Jones, Freddy Mathews, Fred Mockerman, Bernadine Poling, Emily Thompson, Sharon Walbert

… “A time to die”…

… “and a time for peace”…

Those serving in our military & their families, those who serve our community: teachers, police officers, fire fighters, emergency responders, healthcare workers, postal service employees, grocery store workers, and elected officials. Victims and families of gun violence.

“Lunch Bunch”

Every third Thursday of the month

Allie’s Café

2323 E Mishawaka Ave, South Bend, IN 46615

We have a continuous reservation for 12.

Please contact Wendy in the church office to reserve a spot!

574-234-4159

May 16, June 20, July 18, August 15
First Presbyterian Church
333 West Colfax Avenue
South Bend, Indiana 46601
Return Service Requested

Join Us For Worship on Sunday Morning @ 9:45